

Description of a New Species of *Perameles*, from New Ireland  
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PERAMELES COCKERELLII. Nov. Sp.

HEAD conical, pointed; snout long, tapering; eye small; ears small, rounded, almost as broad as long; limbs short and thick made; hind feet broad; nails of fore feet strong, arched, rounded; the outer and inner toes rudimentary, and without nails; the fur harsh; spiny on the back, composed of flat, grooved spines, black hairs intermixed with fine hair of a rusty brown colour; on the sides the spiny hairs are blackish, tipped with rusty not so stiff, and mixed with rusty and grey hairs of a finer texture; the rusty colour more conspicuous on the thighs and hind legs; under surface light ashy grey or white; hair on the inner side of the limbs without spines; feet clothed with flattish, light ashy brown or grey hairs; the basal portion of which is brown; head blackish-brown, with a few fine grey hairs; snout bare; sides of the face, throat, and chest light ashy brown; ears with a few reddish hairs on inner surface, blackish on the outer; tail blackish above, whitish beneath, apparently naked, but clothed very sparingly with fine hairs.

From snout to root of tail, 10 inches; tail, 2·5 inches; head, 2·7; fore feet, 1 inch; nail of longest toe, 0·4.

Hind feet, 1·9; longest toe, 0·7; its nail, 0·4.

From snout to eye, 1·7; from snout to base of ear, 2·6; ear, 0·7 x 0·6.

*Hab.* New Ireland.

A larger specimen measured: Total length from snout to root of tail, 12 inches; tail, 3·2; hind foot, 2·3; fore foot, 1·3; from snout to base of ear, 3 inches; to orbit, 2·2.

This species I have named after Mr. James Cockerell, who accompanied the Rev. George Brown during his recent missionary voyage to the islands north-east of New Guinea, and from whom the Museum obtained the present specimen, only two of which species were obtained during the trip.